

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

18 APRIL 1963

~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Berlin

a. The center air corridor is to be tested by a privately owned British aircraft on Saturday. The Soviets in the Berlin Air Safety Center will be given the usual notice.

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[redacted]
[redacted] Soviet fighter aircraft are maintaining a very close watch over the corridor traffic. This started 25 March when the Soviets protested round-robin flights by a US C-130 checking navigational aids.

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2. Laos

a. A resumption of the civil war has edged a bit closer.

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c. The Communists may have acted at Ban Ban to forestall a joint Kong Le/Meo action to interdict the Route 7 supply line from North Vietnam.

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(Cont'd)

d. However, Kong Le has been planning to retake positions in the Plaine des Jarres area, hopefully with the aid of Vang Pao and his Meos.

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f. Souvanna has told Ambassador Unger, somewhat cryptically, of "strong measures" he would be taking Saturday or Sunday. Souvanna also said he would declare Col. Deuane, the dissident neutralist, a rebel-- a thing he had "never done before." He plans to go to the Plaine des Jarres Saturday for a second stab at settling the issues.

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h. Peiping radio is detailing more charges on US intervention, highlighting Air America supply flights into the Plaine des Jarres. In Warsaw, at the latest routine Cabot-Wang talk yesterday, the Chinese Communist--after warning against an "insidious scheme brewing against the mainland" from Taiwan--catalogued US misdeeds in Laos. He then conveyed a "serious warning urging the US to rein in its horse at the edge of the precipice and stop playing with fire."

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3. Yemen

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4. Cuba-USSR

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a. Cuban pilots may have begun their flight training in MIG-21s;

b. The Soviets have provided makeshift armament for at least one merchant ship involved in the Cuban trade. The Sovetskaya Gavan, now loading sugar in Caibarien

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was photographed with two 14.5-mm, four-barrelled antiaircraft machine guns on deck--still on their wheeled mounts.

(Cont'd)

c. Photography
showed a convoy of 18 trucks and
two prime movers preparing to leave
the cruise missile site at Santa
Cruz del Norte, 25 miles east of
Havana, with two missiles or launchers
in tow. We cannot yet tell whether
this represents an evacuation, a
transfer, or a mobility exercise--
we saw one at a SAM site last week.

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NOTES

- A. USSR TASS says the case of Penkovsky and his alleged British accomplice Greville Wynne has been turned over to the military collegium of the USSR Supreme Court--the court of first instance for treason and espionage. A showcase trial may be coming soon.

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- D. Dominican Republic - Haiti Dominican President Bosch

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fears a popular rising in
Haiti--"a Communist might emerge on top."

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(Cont'd)

E. Iraq-Iran A new dispute may be in the making. On 1 April Iran invited oil exploration bids on offshore waters at the head of the Persian Gulf. Baghdad says the area involved covers "90 percent of Iraq's continental waters" and wants to set up a joint commission to determine territorial water boundaries.

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G. Haiti [redacted] Duvalier, charging complicity in the coup attempt of 10 April, has sworn to expel Ambassador Thurston, the US service attaches and the naval mission.

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LATE NOTE

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Laos [redacted]

"heavy fighting from Khang Khay to Lat Houang" (on the road to Xieng Khouang). At this time we cannot judge the true scale of the "fighting."

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DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

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